



## PRESS RELEASE

**The countdown has started.**

**The new sauna facility at the Victoria-Jungfrau Grand Hotel & Spa in Interlaken opens in less than a month.**

The opening of the new 250 m<sup>2</sup> sauna facility of the Group's flagship hotel in Interlaken is scheduled to coincide with the Victoria-Jungfrau Collection's Annual General Meeting of Shareholders on June 3. The five-star establishment invested three million Swiss Francs in the upgrade, following a fire last October.

Interlaken, 9 May 2011 (IB) – On June 3 the doors are set to open for the first time at the brand-new sauna facility at the Victoria-Jungfrau Grand Hotel in Interlaken. By then every trace of last October's fire that prompted the renovation work will have vanished. Instead, guests will be able to enjoy all the amenities of a modern 250 m<sup>2</sup> sauna and an atmosphere inspired by the Bernese Oberland, the region in which the Hotel is set. The warm wood finishes of oiled walnut in particular and a Candle Lounge with a real open fire combine to create a relaxing ambience after the intense heat of the sauna, a sanctuary from the concerns of everyday life. The quartzite ice cave is a welcome place to cool off after an invigorating sauna session. In keeping with the mix of cultural backgrounds of the guests in Interlaken, separate sauna areas have been put in place for men and women as well as a mixed area.

"We're delighted that the opening of the new sauna facility designed in co-operation with the firm of architects *Raumforum* in Thun and sauna specialists *Klafs* from Germany coincides with the Annual General Meeting," says Hans-Rudolf Ruetti, General Manager of the Victoria-Jungfrau Grand Hotel & Spa. Rather than seek inspiration around the globe, the team of architects looked no further than the mountain peaks that surround the five-star establishment. Different thicknesses of timber have been carefully layered to convey a rustic yet elegant atmosphere. The shimmering glass mosaics in a variety of colours provide a delicate contrast. With its vast glass frontages and exits to the outside the entire facility appears light and airy, and flooded with natural light. "The highlight is of course the Candle Lounge with its open fire and spacious, ergonomically designed loungers, perfect to while away relaxing moments by candle light after a sauna," says Hans-Rudolf Ruetti.

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